

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method for communicating between a first handheld computer and a second handheld computer, the method comprising:
- selecting at least a first information item from a first index on the first handheld computer;
 - signaling the first information item from the first handheld computer to the second handheld computer;
 - identifying a second information item on the second handheld computer that corresponds to the first information item; and
 - synchronizing the second information item with the first information item.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein synchronizing the second information item with the first information item includes updating at least a portion of the second information item using the first information item.
3. The method of claim 2, wherein updating at least a portion of the second information item includes replacing the entire second information item with the first information item.
4. The method of claim 1, wherein synchronizing the second information item with the first information item includes determining which of the first or second information items is more recently updated.

1 5. The method of claim 4, wherein synchronizing the second information item with
2 the first information item includes replacing the second information item with the first
3 information item on the second handheld computer if the first information item is more
4 recently updated.

1 6. The method of claim 4, wherein synchronizing the second information item with
2 the first information item includes indicating the second information item as the
3 synchronized information item if the second information item is more recently updated.

1 7. The method of claim 6, further comprising signaling the second information item
2 to the first handheld computer, and replacing the first information item with the second
3 information item on the first handheld computer.

1 8. The method of claim 1, wherein synchronizing the second information item with
2 the first information item includes prompting a user of the second handheld computer to
3 choose between the first information item and the second information item for the
4 synchronized information item.

1 9. The method of claim 1, wherein synchronizing the second information item with
2 the first information item includes comparing the first information item to the second
3 information item.

1 10. The method of claim 9, wherein comparing the first information item to the second
2 information item includes combining selected segments from the first information item
3 and selected segments from the second information item to form a synchronized
4 information item.

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- 1 11. The method of claim 10, wherein comparing the first information item to the
2 second information item includes comparing segments of each of the first or second
3 information item to corresponding segments of the other of the first or second information
4 item to identify which of the segment of the first or second information items are more
5 recently updated as compared to the corresponding segment of the other of the first or
6 second information item.
- 1 12. The method of claim 1, wherein signaling a first information item from the first
2 handheld computer to the second handheld computer includes using a wireless port on the
3 first handheld computer to communicate with a wireless port on the second handheld
4 computer.
- 1 13. The method of claim 1, wherein selecting at least a first information item from a
2 first index on the first handheld computer includes selecting a contact information item
3 from an address book application of the handheld computer.
- 1 14. The method of claim 1, wherein selecting a contact information item includes
2 selecting a information item including components selected from a group of data fields
3 consisting of phone number, mailing addresses, and email addresses.
- 1 15. The method of claim 1, wherein selecting at least a first information item from a
2 first index on the first handheld computer includes selecting an electronic memo from an
3 index of memos.
- 1 16. The method of claim 1, wherein selecting at least a first information item from a
2 first index on the first handheld computer includes selecting a task information item from
3 a task application.

1 17. The method of claim 1, wherein selecting at least a first information item from a
2 first index on the first handheld computer includes selecting a calendar information item
3 from a calendar application.

1 18. The method of claim 17, wherein selecting the calendar information item includes
2 selecting a calendar block.

1 19. The method of claim 17, wherein selecting the calendar information item includes
2 selecting a calendar appointment.

1 20. The method of claim 1, wherein selecting at least a first information item from a
2 first index on the first handheld computer includes selecting a first folder from the first
3 index, the first folder comprising a plurality of information items.

1 21. The method of claim 20, wherein selecting a first folder from the first index
2 includes selecting the first folder comprising a combination of contact information items
3 and calendar information items.

1 22. A method for communicating with a first handheld computer using a second
2 handheld computer, the method comprising:
3 receiving one or more first information items signaled from the first handheld
4 computer to the second handheld computer;
5 processing a first identification from the first handheld computer,
6 using the first identification to identify one or more second information items on
7 the second handheld computer to be used in synchronizing the second
8 information items with the first information items; and
9 synchronizing the second information items with the first information items.

1 23. The method of claim 22, wherein processing a first identification from the first
2 handheld computer includes receiving the first identification signaled from the first
3 handheld computer.

1 24. The method of claim 22, wherein processing a first identification for the first
2 handheld computer includes receiving the first identification signaled as an entry from a
3 user of the second handheld computer.

1 25. The method of claim 22, wherein using the first identification to identify one or
2 more second information items on the second handheld computer includes identifying a
3 group of information items previously synchronized with a group of information items
4 from the first handheld computer.

1 26. The method of claim 22, wherein using the first identification to identify one or
2 more information items on the second handheld computer includes associating the first
3 identification with a user group, and identifying one or more information items previously
4 associated with the user group.

1 27. The method of claim 22, wherein using the first identification to identify one or
2 more information items on the second handheld computer includes associating the first
3 identification with a user group, and identifying one or more information items previously
4 synchronized with another handheld computer identified as being in the user-group.

1 28. The method of claim 22, wherein synchronizing the second information items with
2 the first information items includes updating the second information items using the first
3 information items.

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1 29. The method of claim 28, wherein updating the second information items includes
2 replacing the second information items with the first information items.

1 30. The method of claim 22, wherein synchronizing the second information items with
2 the first information items includes determining which of the first or second information
3 items are more recently updated.

1 31. The method of claim 30, wherein synchronizing the second information items with
2 the first information items includes replacing the second information items with the first
3 information items on the second handheld computer if the first information items are more
4 recently updated.

1 32. The method of claim 30, wherein synchronizing the second information items with
2 the first information items includes indicating the second information items as
3 synchronized information items if the second information item are more recently updated.

1 33. The method of claim 22, wherein synchronizing the second information items with
2 the first information items includes prompting a user of the second handheld computer to
3 choose between the first information items and the second information items for as
4 synchronized information items for the second handheld computer.

1 34. A method for communicating between a first handheld computer and a second
2 handheld computer, the method comprising:
3 selecting at least a first information item from a first index on the first handheld
4 computer;
5 signaling the first information item from the first handheld computer to the second
6 handheld computer;

7 identifying a second index on the second handheld computer that corresponds to
8 the first index; and
9 synchronizing the second index with the first index so that the second index
10 contains the first information item.

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1 35. The method of claim 34, wherein selecting at least a first information item from a
2 first index includes selecting an information item from a folder for a first application
3 operated on the first handheld computer, wherein identifying a second index on the second
4 handheld computer includes identifying a second folder for the first application operated
5 on the second handheld computer, and wherein synchronizing the second index with the
6 first index includes copying the first information item to the second index.

1 36. A handheld computer comprising:
2 a communication port;
3 a conduit for communicating with a second handheld computer, the conduit
4 recognizing information items received through the communication port from
5 the second handheld computers, the conduit identifying a subset of existing
6 information items on the handheld computer in response to receiving an
7 identification from the other computer, and the conduit synchronizing the
8 subset of existing information items with the information items from the
9 second handheld computer

1 37. The handheld computer of claim 36, wherein the conduit transmits the existing
2 information items to the second handheld computer with a corresponding identification.

1 38. The handheld computer of claim 36, further comprising a touch-screen display for
2 receiving user input to manipulate operations of the conduit.

1 39. The handheld computer of claim 36, further comprising a stored first index that
2 lists the existing information items of existing information items.

1 40. The handheld computer of claim 38, further comprising an electronic calendar
2 program operated on the handheld computer, and wherein subset of existing information
3 items comprise one or more stored indexes of calendar events or calendar blocks.

1 41. The handheld computer of claim 40, wherein the subset of existing information
2 items are calendar events stored in a designated profile.

1 42. The handheld computer of claim 36, further comprising an address book program,
2 and wherein the subset of existing information items comprise contact information items.

1 43. The handheld computer of claim 36, wherein the conduit synchronizes the subset
2 of existing information items by replacing the subset of existing information items with
3 the information items from the second handheld computer.

1 44. The handheld computer of claim 36, wherein the conduit synchronizes the subset
2 of existing information items by replacing segments of each of the subset of existing
3 information items with corresponding segments of the information items from the second
4 handheld computer.

1 45. The handheld computer of claim 36, wherein the conduit determines for each
2 information item in the subset of existing information items whether that information item
3 is more recently updated than a corresponding information item received with the
4 information items from the second handheld computer, and replaces that information item
5 with the corresponding information item received from the second handheld computer if

6 the corresponding information item from the second handheld computer is more recently
7 updated.

1 46. The handheld computer of claim 43, wherein the conduit determines for each
2 information item in the subset of existing information items whether a segment in that
3 information item is more recently updated than a matching segment of a corresponding
4 information item received with the information items from the second handheld computer,
5 and replaces the segment of that existing information item with the matching segment if
6 the segment of the corresponding information item from the second handheld computer is
7 more recently updated.

1 47. The handheld computer of claim 46, wherein segments of existing information
2 items correspond to field entries inputted by a user of the handheld computer.

1 48. The handheld computer of claim 36, wherein the communication port is a wireless
2 port.

1 49. The handheld computer of claim 48, wherein the wireless port is Bluetooth
2 enabled.

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